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CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. 127798

25X1

COUNTRY Yugoslavia
SUBJECT Communist Activities

DATE DISTR. 17 November 1947

NO. OF PAGES 2

**PLACE
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(LISTED BELOW)

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**SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.**

[Redacted Box]

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[Redacted Box]

- Underground statistics show that approximately 550 thousand persons have been killed in Yugoslavia since the advent of the "Communist paradise." Among these victims are 100 thousand from Belgrade, 58 thousand from Zagreb, 11 thousand from Sarajevo, and 5 thousand from Ljubljana. Property of all victims was confiscated by the Government. Very few of the persons killed were collaborators; most were merely non-Communists.

Comment

[Redacted Box] At least 500-550 thousand persons have been killed in Yugoslavia since the war, most of them in the early days immediately following liberation. The figures for killings in Belgrade and Zagreb seem high, however. A more accurate estimate would be 15-20 thousand in Belgrade and 8-10 thousand in Zagreb. All property has been confiscated, and the Government does not intend to pay anything for nationalized property. Approximately 30 thousand Germans are still in Yugoslav prison camps; another 70-80 thousand have vanished.

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- The Yugoslav Government's policy is "control through misery." The people are being robbed and destroyed systematically in order that the Communist Party, may become stronger. The Party seems unaware or unconcerned that destruction of the people will mean ultimate destruction of the Yugoslav nation.
- Communist agents organize competitions to determine who can collect the greatest quantity of grain from the collective farms. Contributions, though ostensibly voluntary, are actually forced. Approximately 50 thousand Serbs have been imprisoned for refusing to surrender foodstuffs to "collectors." When unable to hide their grain, Serbs dump it into the rivers rather than "help the Soviets replenish their larder for the next war."

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Comment

[Redacted Box] The seizing of produce from Serbian peasants has been going on since the end of the war. Peasants are required to contribute a certain percentage of their production. A campaign was started recently to force surrender of entire crops. Communist "flying squads" compete to see who can get the most out of the farmers. Results of the competition are published in the newspapers.

- During the recent harvest season, beaten and disfigured peasants were released from prison to serve as object lessons to prospective "contributors."

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In Kovacic, for example, two peasants, Martin Polerac and Jacob Czech, were sent home after their eyes had been gouged out by Commissar Zurko of the Putcevo (near Belgrade) secret police (OZNA). Polerac and Czech were forced to wander in the streets of Kovacic, telling their neighbors that they had received punishment for attempting to hide grain from the Government. Czech, after refusing to admit the justice of his punishment, had his tongue cut off by the secret police.

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[Comment] [] Kovacic in the Vojvodna is considered the breadbasket of Europe. The peasants and settlers are strongly against the regime. The Government is recruiting peasants for transfer to the former German villages.

5. According to official data, the Tito treasury has accumulated the following revenue:

Amount (In Billions of Dinars)	Source of Revenue
500	Confiscated industrial property
40	Raw materials found in stores and warehouses
40	Sale of UNRRA goods
40	Tax levies
7.6	Profits from conversion of occupational currency

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[Comment] [] Approximately 500 million occupational lira were issued without backing. The Ljubljana Bank issued the unbacked Julian March currency after an agreement with the Military Government, and with the secret approval of Minister of Finance Zujovic. Through strict regulation of exchange, the Government manages to seize considerable property. There is, however, considerable hoarding of gold by individual citizens.

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